

11. OBSERVATIONS ON THE CAECILIAN *ICHTHYOPHIS BEDDOMII* PETERS FROM KOTEGEHAR, DISTRICT CHIKMAGALUR, MYSORE

(With two plates)

During a faunistic survey tour in Mysore State, in January 1964, I collected several specimens of the limbless amphibian *Ichthyophis beddomii* Peters at Kotegehar, Chikmagalur District. The animal (locally known as *hitalmundi*) lives in mud, near perennial springs (Plate I, fig. 2), but in the rainy season is found abundantly inside the cardamom plantations in and around Kotegehar village. I collected a female coiled round a cluster of eggs which she carried with her in this manner while moving slowly from place to place (Plate II). The eggs were twelve in number and yellowish white in colour. The female specimen was of a fairly big size being 22 cm. in length. The males were generally smaller in size than the females and averaged 12 cm. (Plate I, fig. 1).

I have collected several specimens of this caecilian and have observed that a particular species of eel, namely *Fluta alba* (Zview), is always associated with it. Superficially, this eel looks like a caecilian.

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12. EXISTING FISHERY OF ALIGARH

(With a text-figure)

The fish resources of Aligarh and neighbouring areas, potentially rich as they are, yield a mere fraction of what they could were they exploited in scientific fashion. Lack of scientific information, old fashioned techniques of fishing, and the depressed condition of the fishermen lead to a very modest fish output.